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Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I have been following the Microsoft antitrust case in the federal courts since its inception three years ago. Last November, a settlement was proposed, and it is currently pending approval. This bodes well for the economy, which has been steadily declining since the case began.

Unfortunately, Microsoft's opponents are not happy that Microsoft will emerge intact in this settlement, and are striving both to undermine agreement of the settlement and to bring additional litigation against Microsoft.

Further litigation will serve no one. Microsoft has agreed to make the necessary adjustments in policy and product to prevent further antitrust violations; no further action is necessary.

The settlement reached late last year is fair both to Microsoft and its competitors. Microsoft will be allowed to retain control over the bulk of its operations, but will be required to restrict some other practices deemed monopolistic and alter certain products in order to facilitate fair competition.

For example, Microsoft has agreed not to retaliate if software is introduced into the market that directly competes with Microsoft software. Microsoft also plans to allow computer makers broad rights to reconfigure Windows to their own specifications using non-Microsoft software, and enable them to do so by reformatting upcoming versions of Windows in order to support non-Microsoft programs.

I believe the settlement is fair and that no additional measures need to be taken against Microsoft on the federal level. I urge you to support finalization of the settlement.

Sincerely,

Darryl LaRocque

